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27 February 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: DCI
DDCISUBJECT: EXCOM Action on The Economic Challenge:
Issues, Capabilities and New Initiatives

1. The EXCOM met on 23 February to discuss subject report. At a previous meeting on the future of economic intelligence, the Committee discussed what appeared to be the realities shaping an increased CIA role in economic intelligence. This time, the Committee (with skepticism expressed by the IG) agreed that some basic shifts in attitude at high levels in Washington would have to precede changes in the field. They endorsed the Report's recommendations (beginning on page 20), except for No. 4, page 22, concerning establishment of a "PFIAB-like" Collection Advisory Board of corporate executives.

25X1 2. I have approved, as EXCOM Chairman, the DI, DO and DS&T in-house initiatives recommended on pages 21 through 25 (except that noted above). I concur, as did the EXCOM members, in the recommended Inter-Agency Initiatives on page 20; I will solicit your approval of them after receiving an implementation plan from [] and the group which produced the report. The EXCOM felt that Recommendations 1-3 will only be meaningful if you, personally, put the case to the Secretaries of State, Commerce, Treasury et al; they and I also believe that if this hoary issue can't be tackled by this DCI and Administration, it never can be.

[]
Executive Director ✓

Attachment

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